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# FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

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## AUSTRALIA.

### **SYDNEY—Harbor Construction Work Against Infection from Rats.**

The following was received from Vice-Consul General Baker, under date of May 7:

A rat-proof wall extending along a large section of the water front of this port has just been completed by the harbor authorities on recommendation of the board of health.

In 1900, the year of the first serious epidemic of plague in this community, the medical officer for health strongly urged the erection of this wall as a safeguard against infection. The work was not really begun until almost two years later. The results are already being manifested. The two staffs of rat catchers maintained by the board of health and the city council, respectively, for the wharves and for premises in immediate neighborhood of the water front, have now much less difficulty than formerly in keeping the rats down, and the large number of poison baits which for years have been laid each night are taken in smaller and smaller proportions.

From June 15, 1909, to April 16, 1910, not one plague-infected rat was discovered at this port. On the latter date one infected rat was found, and on April 24, 1910, two more were found in the same vicinity.

## BARBADOS.

### **BRIDGETOWN—Inspection of Vessels.**

Acting Assistant Surgeon Le Sueur reports, May 22 and 28:

Week ended May 21. Vessels inspected 8, of which number 2 were fumigated. They carried a total of 325 members of crews and 139 passengers. Sanitary condition of cargoes, crews, and passengers good.

Week ended May 28. Vessels inspected 11, of which number 1 was fumigated. Total members of crews 472, passengers 196. Sanitary condition of vessels, cargoes, and personnel good.

## CHINA.

### **AMOY—Inspection of Vessels—Plague.**

Acting Assistant Surgeon Morehead reports, April 26 and May 3 and 9:

Week ended April 23. Bills of health issued as follows: Steamships *Taisang* for Manila, crew 62, cabin passengers 27, steerage passengers 146, and *Yingchow* for Manila, crew 55, cabin passengers 51, steerage passengers 234, granted original bills of health. All passengers vaccinated. Crews and steerage passengers bathed and clothing disinfected. Two cases of trachoma from steamship *Yingchow* held. Manifests viséed for 1,435 and 856 packages of freight, respectively.

Week ended April 30. Bills of health issued as follows: April 26, U. S. S. *Pompey*, naval collier, for Manila, crew 38 and 8 passengers